

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25 and 26 and cancel claims 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 20, 21, 22 and 27 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A tool for marking a repetitive geometric pattern on a ~~substantially vertical~~ surface, the tool comprising:
  - (a) a substantially transparent plate including an outer face, an inner face and outer edges forming a polygonal outer shape, the outer shape comprising at least a portion of the repetitive geometric pattern;
  - (b) a central handle, said central handle on the plate in a first location rigidly attached to said outer face;
  - (c) a first level on the level, said first level positioned on said plate in a ~~second~~ location such that ~~the~~ said plate is in a first preferred orientation for marking at least a portion of the geometric pattern on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface when the first level indicates ~~the~~ said plate is in a substantially level position; ~~and~~
  - (d) a second level, said second level positioned on the said plate such that ~~the~~ said plate is in a

second preferred orientation for marking at least a portion of the geometric pattern on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface when the said second level indicates the said plate is in a substantially level ~~position.~~ position; and

(e) a plurality of spatially aligned marking pads, each of said marking pads affixed to said inner face of said plate, said marking pads being capable of at least temporarily retaining and transferring a marking material to the surface, each of said marking pads visible through said outer face to permit precise repositioning of said tool on the surface.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Original) A tool according to claim 1 wherein the polygonal shape is a rectangle.

4. (Currently Amended) A tool according to claim 3 wherein the rectangular plate includes ~~a first edge having a first series of~~ first and second outer edges, said first and second outer edges each having graduated markings therealong.

5.-8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A tool according to ~~claim 8~~ claim 1

wherein ~~the~~ said marking pads are affixed to ~~the~~ said inner face of ~~the~~ said plate proximate ~~to~~ corners of the polygonal outer shape.

10. (Currently Amended) A tool according to ~~claim 8~~ claim 9 wherein ~~the~~ said marking pads each comprise a circular shaped foam material and the marking material ~~is chalk or~~ comprises paint.
11. (Currently Amended) A tool according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 4 wherein ~~the~~ said inner face of ~~the~~ said plate includes a substantially planar portion proximate ~~to the~~ said outer edges ~~of the plate~~.
12. (Currently Amended) A tool according to claim 11 wherein the said inner face of ~~the~~ said plate further includes a concave portion, wherein ~~only the~~ said substantially planar portion of ~~the~~ said plate contacts the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface when the said plate is positioned ~~on the~~ substantially vertical surface thereon.
13. (Currently Amended) A tool according to claim 1 wherein ~~the~~ said handle ~~is a knob that is~~ comprises a knob, said knob sized and configured for grasping in the palm of a person's hand.
14. (Currently Amended) A tool according to claim 13 wherein ~~the~~ said knob ~~includes~~ defines at least one contoured

recess sized and shaped to receive at least one finger of a person's hand ~~when the knob is grasped in the palm of the person's hand.~~

15. (Currently Amended) A tool according to claim 1 wherein ~~the~~ said plate includes a first plate portion and a second plate portion, ~~the~~ said first and said second plate portions ~~being separated by a seam, and at least one~~ defining a seam therebetween, a connector, said connector releasably connecting ~~the~~ said first and said second plate portions ~~together~~ such that ~~the~~ said first and said second plate portions are releasably joined ~~at the seam and~~ combine in coplanar relation to form the polygonal outer shape.
16. (Currently Amended) A tool according to claim 1 wherein the polygonal outer shape ~~first~~ defines a diamond configuration.
17. (Currently Amended) A kit for enabling a person to mark a desired repetitive geometric pattern on a ~~substantially vertical~~ surface, the kit comprising:
  - (a) a tool, said tool comprising:
    - (i) a substantially transparent plate including an outer face, an inner face, and outer edges, said outer edges forming a polygonal outer shape, the outer shape comprising at least a portion of the repetitive geometric pattern;

- (ii) a central handle, said central handle on the plate in a first location attached to said outer face;
  - (iii) a first level, said first level attached on ~~the~~ said plate in a ~~second~~ first location such that ~~the~~ said plate is in a first preferred orientation for marking at least a portion of the geometric pattern on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface when ~~the~~ said first level indicates ~~the~~ said plate is in a substantially level position; and
  - (iv) a second level, said second level attached on ~~the~~ said plate in a ~~third~~ second location such that ~~the~~ said plate is in a second preferred orientation for marking at least a portion of the geometric pattern on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface when ~~the~~ said second level indicates ~~the~~ said plate is in a substantially level position; and
  - (b) instructional information including instructions for using ~~the~~ said tool to mark a repetitive geometric pattern on ~~a substantially vertical~~ the surface.
18. (Currently Amended) A kit according to claim 17 wherein at least a portion of the instructional information ~~is in~~ comprises a video format.
19. (Currently Amended) A kit according to claim 17, ~~the kit~~

further comprising ~~at least one painting product for~~  
~~decorating the substantially vertical surface~~ paint.

20.-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A method of painting a repetitive pattern on a ~~substantially vertical~~ surface, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) selecting a tool, said tool comprising:

i) a substantially transparent plate including an outer face, an inner face, and outer plate edges forming a polygonal outer shape, the outer shape comprising at least a portion of the repetitive geometric pattern;

ii) a central handle ~~on the plate in a first location~~ rigidly attached to said outer face; and

iii) a first level on the said plate in a ~~second~~ location such that ~~the~~ said plate is in a first preferred orientation for marking at least a portion of the geometric pattern on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface when ~~the~~ said first level indicates ~~the~~ said plate is ~~in a substantially level position~~;

(b) selecting a starting location on the ~~substantially vertical surface, and~~ surface;

(c) placing the substantially transparent plate on the surface at the starting location, wherein the

tool is oriented such that the level indicates the tool is in the first preferred position;

~~(e)~~(d) marking a first geometric shape on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface with a marking material~~[[,]]~~ while using the polygonal outer shape of the plate as a marking guide;

~~(d)~~(e) repositioning the tool to at least a second location on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface, orienting the tool in the first preferred position while viewing the surface through the transparent plate; [[, and]]

(f) marking one or more additional geometric shapes on the surface with a marking material~~[[,]]~~ while using the polygonal outer shape of the plate as a marking guide; and

~~(e)~~(g) painting a pattern on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface using the marked shapes as a guide guides.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 wherein ~~the repetitive marking a geometric pattern is shape~~ comprises the step of marking a series of substantially vertical stripes and the polygonal outer shape of the substantially transparent plate is an elongated rectangle on the surface.

25. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 wherein

~~the repetitive marking a geometric pattern shape comprises the step of marking a is a rectangular block pattern, and the polygonal outer shape of the substantially transparent plate is a rectangle on the surface.~~

26. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 23 wherein the tool further comprises a plurality of marking pads affixed to the inner face of the plate, the marking pads being capable of at least temporarily retaining and transferring a marking material to the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface, and wherein marking a first geometric shape on the ~~substantially vertical~~ surface with a marking material and ~~using the polygonal outer shape of the plate as a marking guide includes~~ comprises the steps of: a) loading the marking pads with a marking material and b) transferring at least a portion of the marking material from ~~at least a portion of the marking pads to the substantially vertical surface when the tool is placed at the starting location.~~

27. (Canceled)